

Final Habitat Plan for the South Atlantic Region - Essential Fish Habitat Requirements for Fishery Mgmt Plans of the SA Fishery Mgmt Council

Restoration Plan Database: Crystal Reports of Individual Plan Summaries

I. BASIC PLAN DATA

Plan name:

Final Habitat Plan for the South Atlantic Region - Essential Fish Habitat Requirements for Fishery Mgmt Plans of the SA Fishery Mgmt Council

Brief description of plan:

This plan describes structural characteristics and function of different habitats and presents available information on distribution and use of those habitats by managed species and their significant prey. It is intended to serve as a source document for all species managed by the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council and represents an ecological characterization of the South Atlantic region describing essential fish habitat. The vast array of species included in the discussion implies that these structural habitats serve such a wide variety of species at different times in different locations that they are all essential to the functioning of a healthy ecosystem in the South Atlantic region. This plan was prepared through a cooperative effort of state, federal and regional habitat partners on the Council's Habitat and Coral Advisory Panels, additional technical experts identified during the Council EFH workshops and Council staff.

Region the plan is located within:

South-Atlantic Region

Watershed(s) included within the plan:

S005x , S010x , S013x , S016x , S020a , S020b , S020w , S030x , S035x , S040x , S042x , S045x , S048x , S050x , S053x , S056x , S060x , S063x , S065x , S070x , S073x , S076x , S080x , S085x , S090x , S093x , S095x , S100x , S105x , S110x , S115x , S120x , S125x , S130x , S135x , S140x , S143x , S146x , S150x , S155x , S160x , S163x , S166x , S170x , S175x , S180x , S183x , S186x , S190x , S193x , S196x , S200x , S203x , S206x

Area plan covers (in square miles):

square miles

Plan scale:

Multi-state

Plan's lead organization(s):

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council

Plan's Main Contact Information:

Roger Pugliese
Senior Fishery Biologist
South Atlantic Fishery Management Council
One Southpark Circle
Suite 306
Charleston, South Carolina 29407-4699
843.571.4366 19
843.769.4520
safmc@noaa.gov
www.safmc.net/fmpro?-db=content&-format=def

On-line version of plan:

ocean.floridamarine.org/efh_coral/habitat_plan.htm

Date of original plan:

10/1998

II. TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Plan includes restoration goals: Y

Level of detail of the goals:

G

Summary of the goals:

To protect, restore and develop habitats upon which species fisheries depend - to increase the extent of their distribution and abundance □ and to improve their productive capacity for the benefit of present and future generations. Objectives will be accomplished through the recommendation of no net loss or significant environmental degradation of existing habitat. A long-term objective is to support and promote a net-gain of fisheries habitat through the restoration and rehabilitation of the productive capacity of habitats that have been degraded, and the creation and development of productive habitats where increased fishery production is probable. Mitigation is defined as sequential processes whereby negative impacts are avoided, minimized, rectified, reduced over time, or are offset through compensation. Specific activities are recommended at the policy level.

Plan recommends or uses criteria for selecting restoration sites (e.g. cost benefit ratio, ecological benefits):

Y

Summary of the criteria:

Except in the case of overriding ecological considerations, the site for the creation of new wetland habitat should be located as near as possible to the site that would be eliminated. In any event, the new site should be in the same estuarine system as the habitat that is being replaced. The replacement wetland should consider physical implications such as shoaling and existing circulation and drainage patterns.

Plan recommends restoration of specific project sites:

N

Plan includes a discussion of funding sources:

N

Plan addresses long-term protection of restored sites:

N

Partners included in developing the plan:

Federal
State
Local
Business/Industry
Non-profit Organizations
Academia

Type(s) of public outreach included during plan development:

Held public workshops, meetings, open house, or scoping meetings
Held focus groups
Developed a Web site to inform public and/or seek public input
Kept a contact list of interested parties
Mailed or e-mailed information to a contact list
Distributed brochures or other materials
Published plan in Federal Register
Formed an advisory group(s)
Involved the media through news releases, public service announcements, etc.
Was subject to a public comment period

Plan includes public outreach as part of plan implementation (e.g. annual public meeting, local group participation):

Y

Plan discusses the application of innovative approaches to restoration:

N

Plan make use of GIS mapping capabilities:

Y

Plan addresses monitoring/reference sites for ecosystem level monitoring (baseline conditions) by:

G

Plan addresses monitoring/reference sites for project level monitoring by:

G

The plan discusses or coordinates with other restoration plans covering the same geographic area:

Y

Other plan names:

The Shrimp Fishery Management Plan, The Red Drum Fishery Management Plan, The Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Plan, The Coastal Migratory Pelagics Fishery Management Plan, The Golden Crab Fishery Management Plan, The Spiny Lobster Fishery Management Plan, The Coral, Coral Reefs, and Live-Hard Bottom Habitat Fishery Management Plan, The Calico Scallop Fishery Management Plan

Plan contains detailed information on historic and/or current habitat size, rate of loss, acres restored or protected, etc.):

Y

Summary of this habitat information:

Habitats included: 1) Estuarine - Inshore Essential Fish Habitat, including Estuarine Emergent, Estuarine Shrub - Scrub Mangroves, Seagrass Habitat, Oyster Reefs and Shell Banks, Intertidal Flats, Palustrine Emergent and Forested, Aquatic Beds, Estuarine Water Column. 2) Marine Offshore Essential Fish Habitat, including Live - Hard Bottom Habitat, Coral and Coral Reefs, Artificial - Man-made Reefs, Sargassum, Water Column. Detailed information includes acreage of coastal wetlands by estuarine drainage area in the South Atlantic, habitat and microhabitat distribution of organisms showing an association with mangrove forest habitats of the Southeastern United States, habitat and biological associations for select managed species, acres of habitat alterations requested by type of projects reviewed between 1981 and 1996 in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.